english lutheran

Welcome to worship on October 4, 2026

Interim Pastoral Staff
Pastor Steve Minnema
Pastor Lisa Shank

Ministers:
All Baptized Members

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
In Christ, we welcome, worship, and work in the world.

OUR VISION STATEMENT
Live life abundantly. By the grace of God, we shall be a healthy, mission-focused congregation, full of life.

OUR WELCOME STATEMENT
The faith community of English Lutheran Church is rooted in Christ and committed to living life generously. We celebrate diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, economic status, marital status, physical or mental ability. We are united in the Holy Spirit as we embrace our differences. We welcome all as we strive to be a community equipped for God's mission in the world. We invite you to join us as we seek to promote racial equity, social and economic justice, and care for our environment.

Wherever you are
on your faith journey,
there is a place for you here.

englishlutheran.org

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

All Creation Sings

WELCOME TO THIS SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION. Lutherans believe that Christ, the Incarnate Word of God, is truly present in the Lord's Supper and that in this meal of the baptized children of God our Lord gives forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. All who seek the mercy and grace of God in this Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus are welcome to the Lord's Table.

WORSHIP | Saturdays 5:00pm, Sundays 9:00am
OFFICE HOURS | Monday-Thursday 8:30-1:30 or by appointment.
CHILDCARE | is available on Sunday mornings. During this time of construction, we will offer a play area just outside the sanctuary if little ones need a break, and we have also relocated the full nursery in Room 104 temporarily.
HEARING LOOP | Use T-coil mode or ask for headphones.

THE WHITE ROSE on the altar is in memory of Shirley Potts, who passed away on Sunday, September 27, 2026. May God bless her memory among us all.

HUNGRY Jar offering in October will be given Habitat for Humanity of the Greater La Crosse Region. Habitat is a nonprofit organization founded on the conviction that every family should have a safe, stable, and affordable place to live. Founded in 1992, we have built or rehabilitated over 70 homes for our neighbors in the La Crosse region. See the E-Voice for October's Faith Build volunteer opportunity!

GIVE OFFERING | Visit englishlutheran.org/give, use the QR code, download the Vanco Mobile Faith app, or text an amount (no decimal point or dollar sign) to 855.929.1663. Give a one-time offering or set up recurring donations!

TODAY'S LEADERS:
Musicians | Trevor Dupej, Vocal Choir
Worship | Liam McCoy, Matthew Hatfield, Christina Fenton, Beth Twiton, Irene TenEyck, Pamela Strittmater, Julie Kriewald, Karen Guptill, Sam Letendre, Nicole Letendre, Charlotte Letendre, Maddie Sweeney, Mike Schnitzius, Gavin Davey, Tom Davey, Lisa Weston
Fellowship | Adam Hatfield

GATHERING

ELW – red hymnal | ACS – purple hymnal

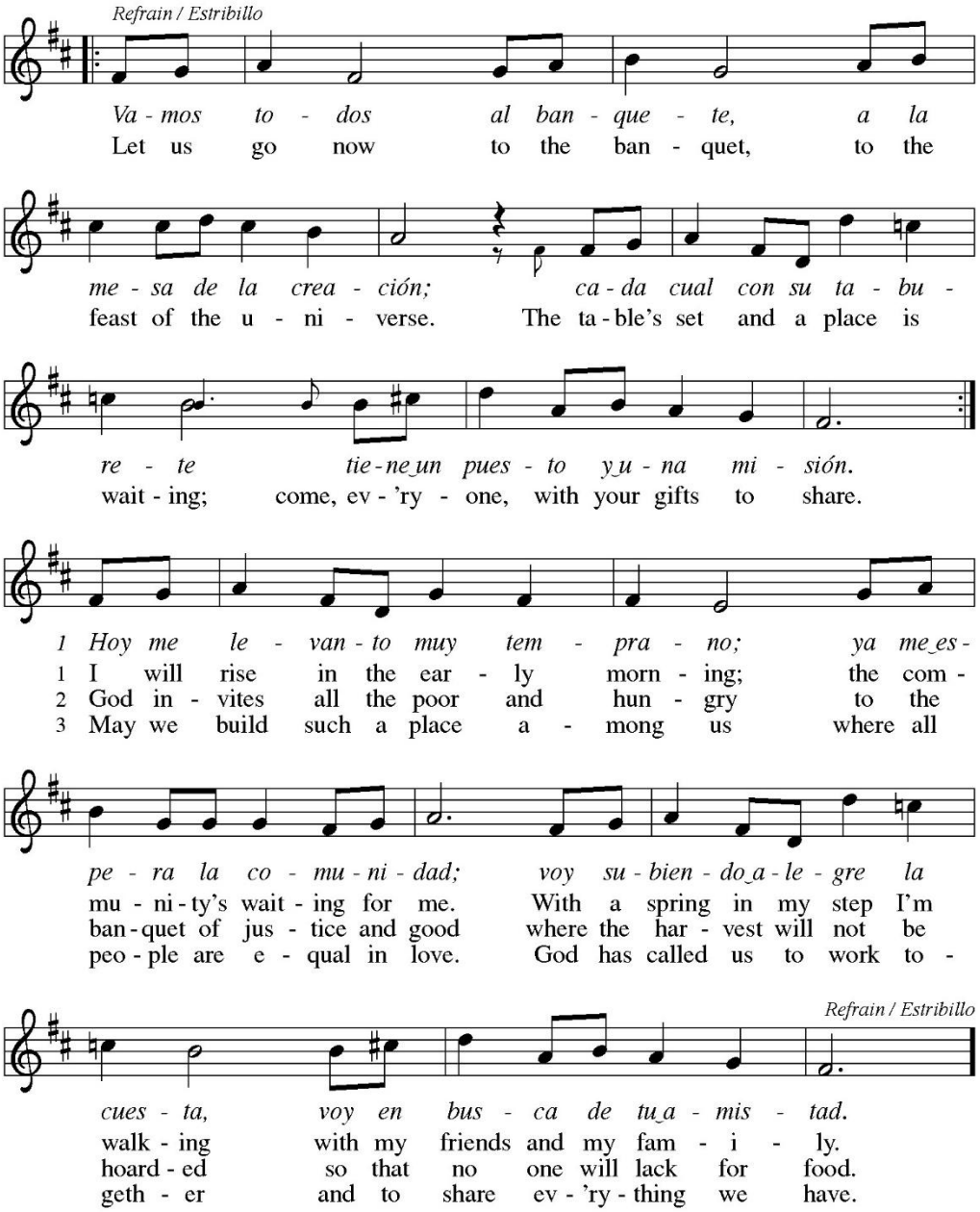
Prelude & Welcome to Worship

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity … and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us through by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection. Compassionate God, **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hear this good news: … Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

Gathering Song ELW #523 | Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955
Text and music © 1994, 1996 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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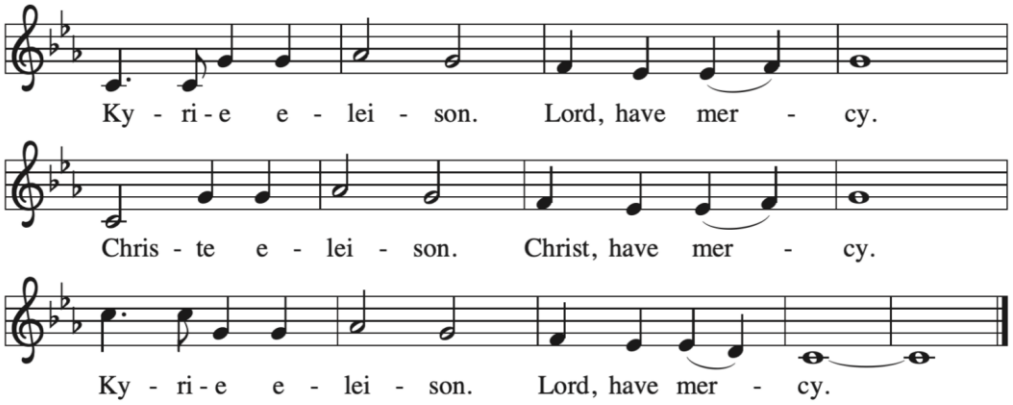
Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie | ACS pg 31



Prayer of the Day

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Special Music | Jesus Is All the World To Me | Vocal Choir

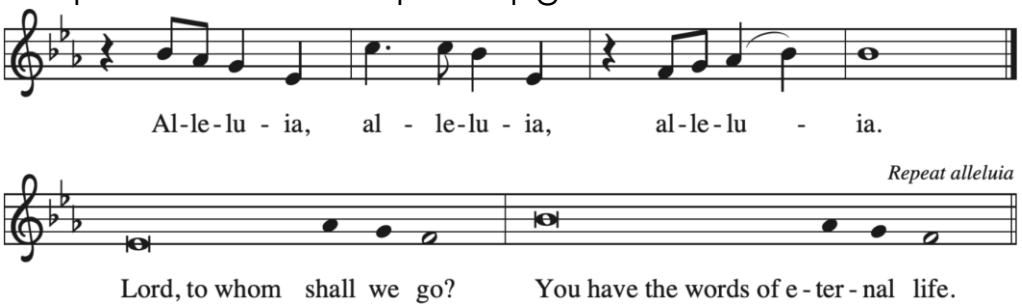
WORD

Lesson | Philippians 3:4b-14 (NT, pg 211)

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Young People's Message | Pastor Steve Minnema

Gospel Acclamation | ACS pg 33



Gospel | Matthew 21:33-46 (NT, pg 24)

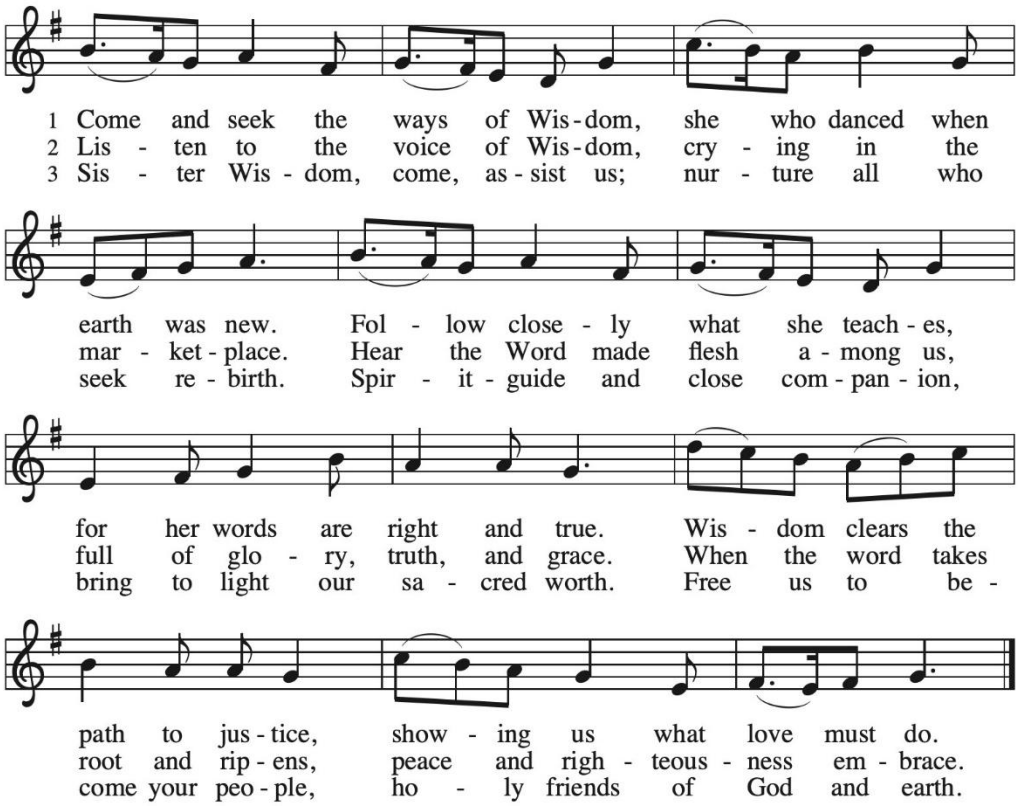
The holy gospel according to Matthew… **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 33 "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence
around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away.
34 When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. 35 But the
tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again he sent other slaves,
more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. 37 Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will
respect my son.' 38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us
kill him and get his inheritance.' 39 So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40 Now

when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" 41 They said to him, "He will put
those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce
at the harvest time."
42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:
'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?
43 "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that
produces its fruits. 44 The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on
whom it falls."
45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about
them. 46 They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon | Grace Forgotten, Grace Remembered | Pastor Steve Minnema

Hymn of the Day ACS #971 | Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
Music: MADELEINE, Donna Kasbohm, b. 1933
Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.
Music © 1997 Pilgrim Press. Alll rights reserved.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

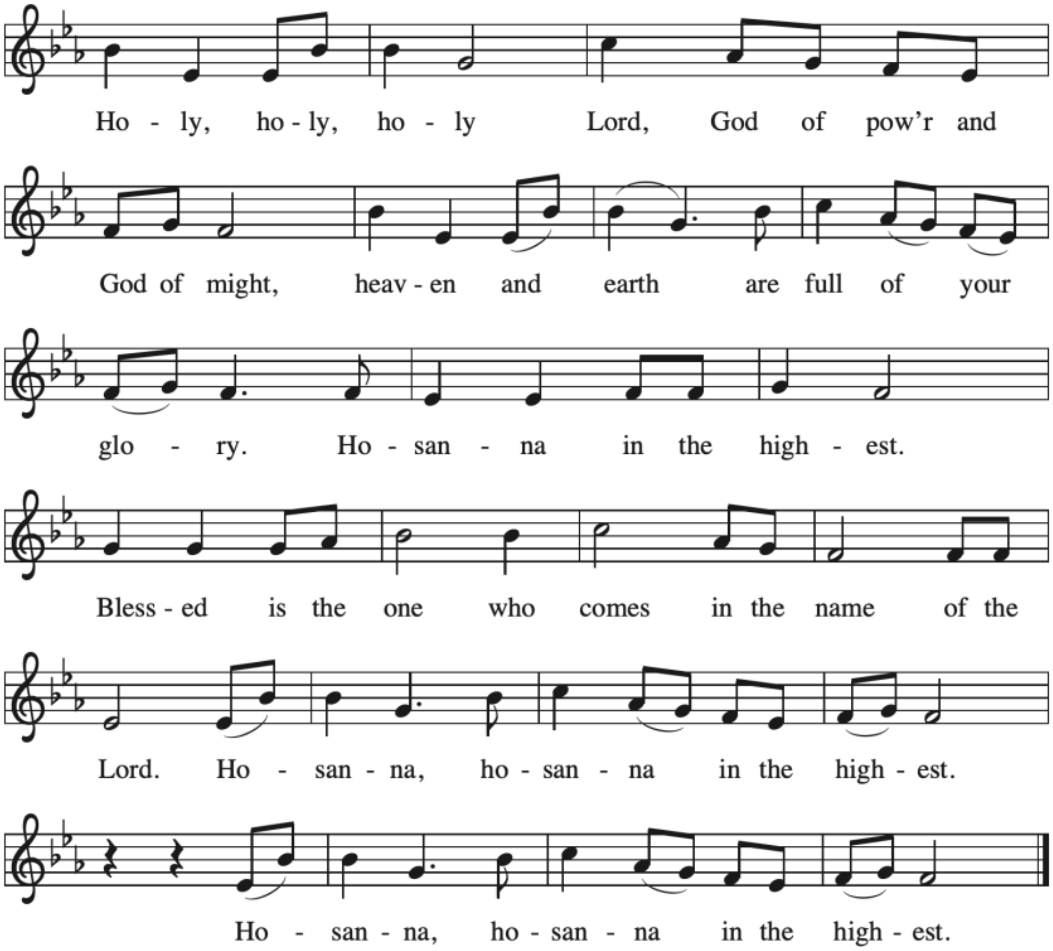
MEAL

Offering & Offering Prayer

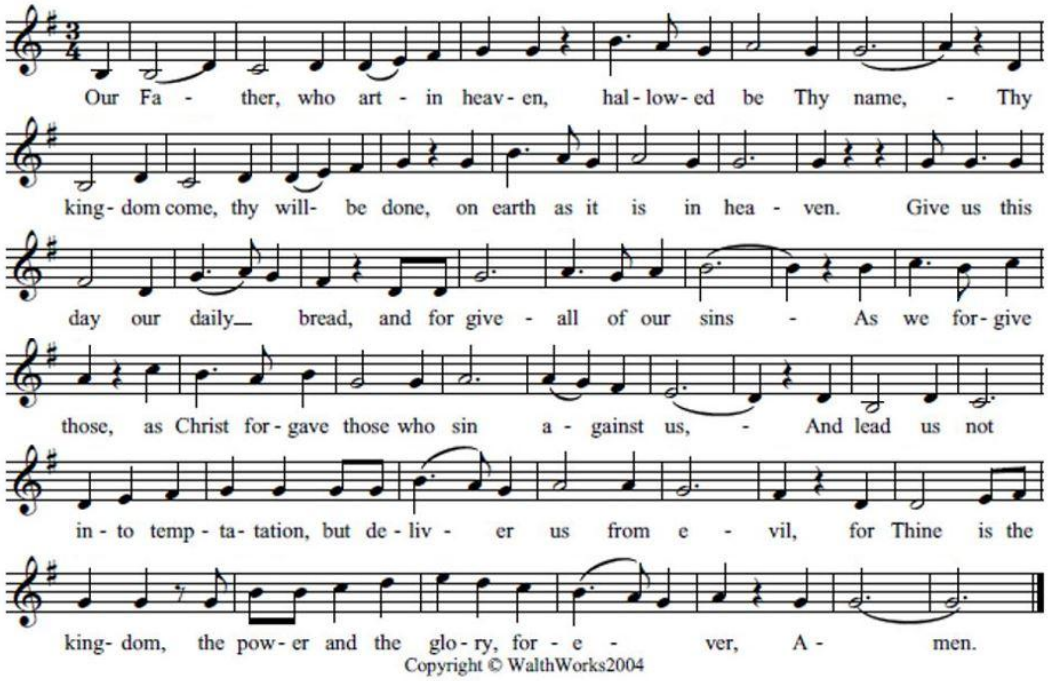
God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is indeed right … and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy | ACS pg 36

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer



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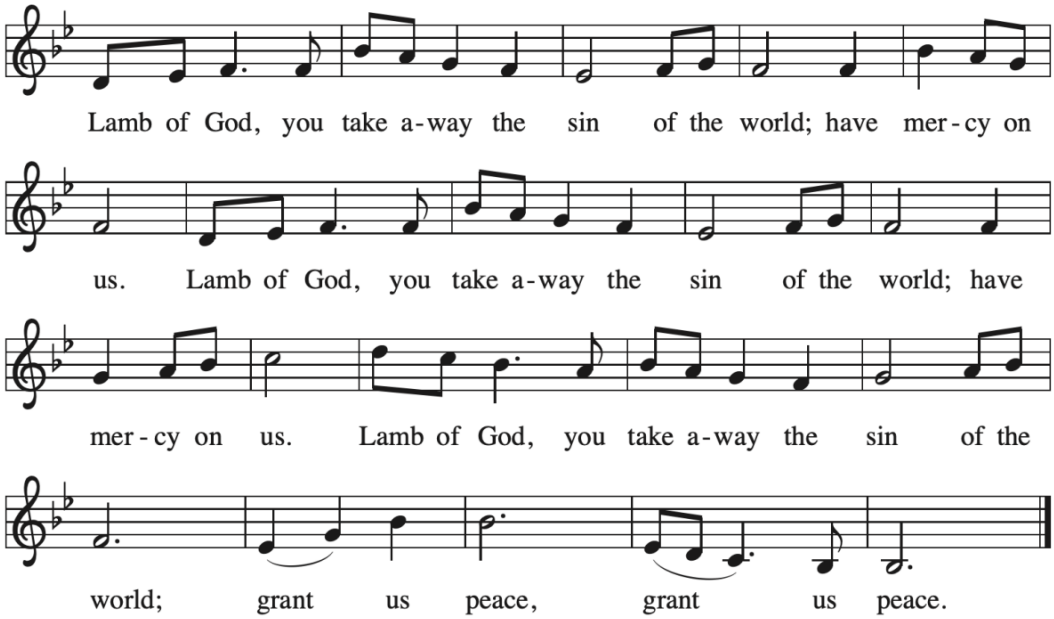
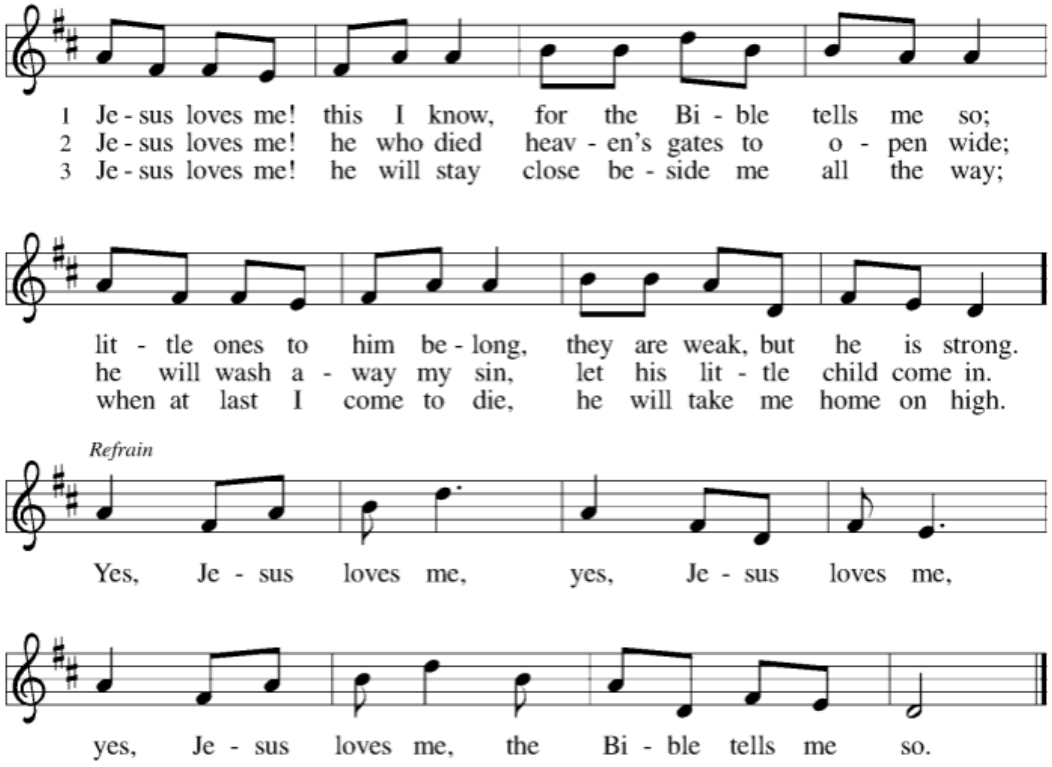
Invitation & Distribution of Communion

Lamb of God | ACS pg 40



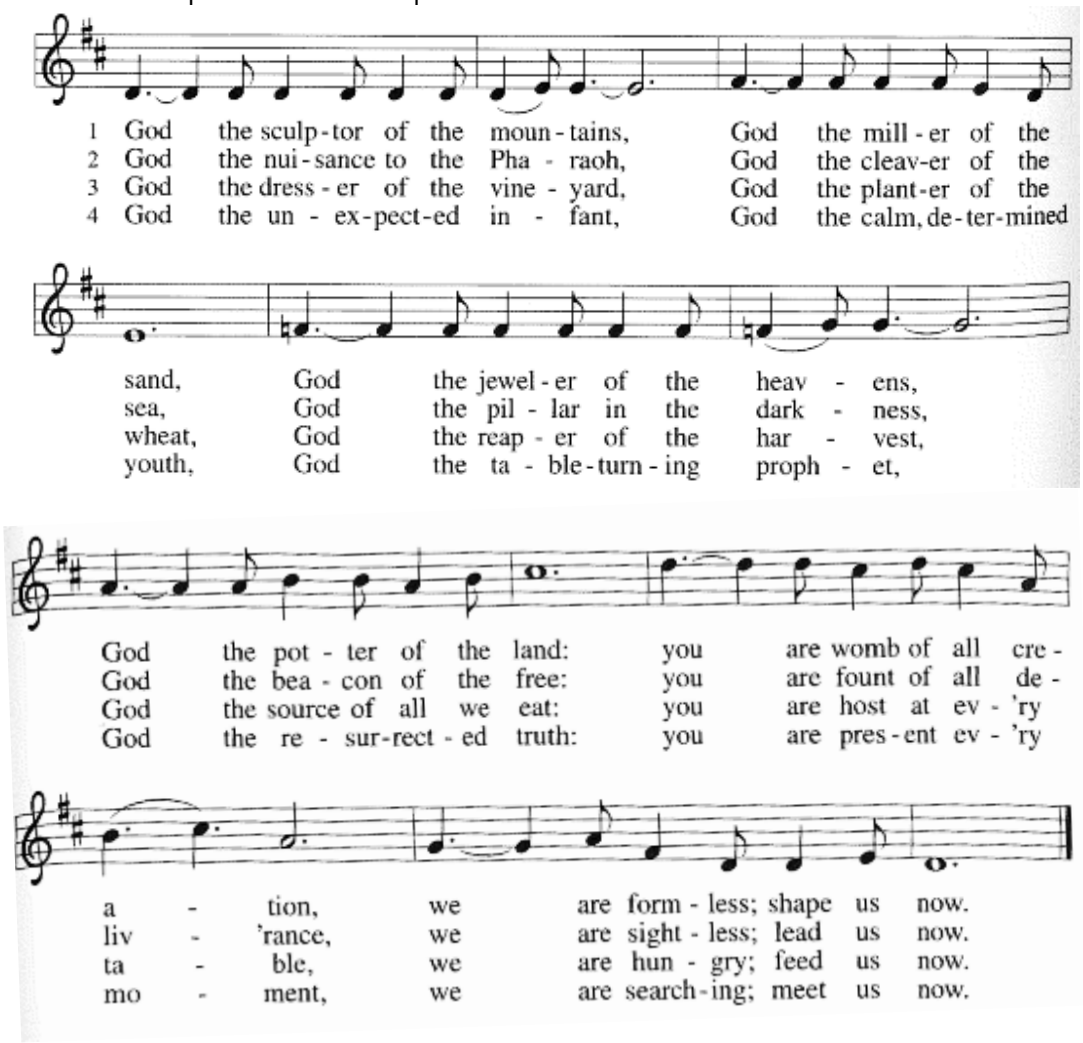
Communion Songs

ELW #595 | Jesus Loves Me!



Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.
Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

ELW #736 | God the Sculptor of the Mountains



Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Sending of Communion

Amen.

SENDING

Welcoming of New Staff

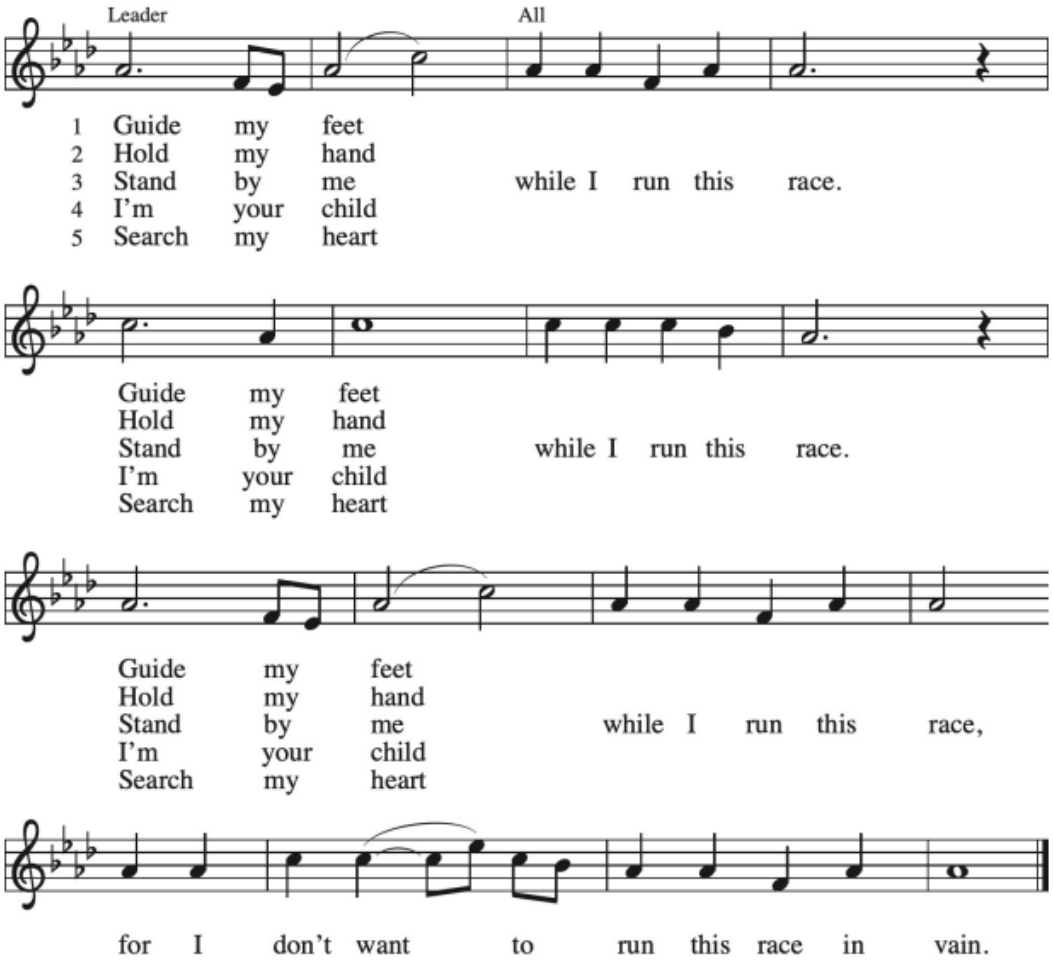
Announcements

Blessing

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ACS #987 | Guide My Feet

Text: African American spiritual
Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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